

Edgemont Bible Church
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Thessalonians

Oct 2, 2016

Intro: Family relationships and leadership

III. Parental Pictures of Spiritual Leadership - 2:7-12

A. The Spiritual Leader as Mother - 7-9

1. Gentleness - vs 7

- a. But - in contrast to the false teachers
- b. gentle - to be kind, to surround one with acceptance, respect, compassion, tolerance, patient, and tenderhearted
- c. among you - they saw and felt what he was talking about
 - i. just as a nursing mother
 - Num 11:11-12
 - nurse - a nourisher,
 - ii. cherishes her own children
 - to warm with body heat
 - her own - Paul wasn't a nanny or a paid surrogate

2. Intimate Affection - vs 8a

- a. the motive for the above behavior - affectionately longing for you,
- b. **himeiromai**
 - i. used only here in the NT
 - ii. to long for passionately. being linked to a mother's love is intended to express an unsurpassed affection

3. Sacrificial Love - vs 8b

- a. we were well pleased
 - i. not merely carrying out an assignment
 - ii. Was rather a joy for them
- b. to impart to you - **metadidomi** - to share, or give someone something of which one retains a part or without losing it themselves
 - i. not only the gospel of God,
 - Used 2 more times in this chapter – vs 2,9 as well as Mk 1:14; Ro 1:1; 15:16; 2 Co 11:2; 1 Pe 4:17
 - The Gospel from the perspective of God as the source of all that is involved in redemption - justification, sanctification, and glorification
 - ii. but also our own lives - their personal investment of time, etc
- c. because you had become dear to us - agapetos - beloved:--(dearly, well) beloved, dear.

4. Unselfish Labor - vs 9

- a. For you remember (the character of the ministry they had with them)
 - i. our labor emphasizes the difficulty of the deed

ii. and toil emphasizes the strenuous toil and struggle in doing it

iii. A mother puts in all that labor and toil

- Contrast 2 Thess 3:7-9; w/ 1 Co 9:7-11; 1 Tim 5:17-18

- for laboring night and day, 2 Thess 3:7-9

- that we might not be a burden to any of you - due to the lack of resources - 2 Co 8:1-2

b. we preached to you the gospel of God - see vs 8

B. The Spiritual Leader as Father - 10-12

1. The Father as Model - vs 10

a. NT definition of manliness - 1 Co 16:13

i. Watch - to keep awake, watch (literally or figuratively):--be vigilant, wake, (be) watch(-ful).

ii. stand fast in the faith - to be stationary, i.e. (figuratively) to persevere:--stand (fast).

iii. be brave

- to act manly, to conduct oneself in a courageous way.

- only place in NT,

- but in the Septuagint - *Be Strong and Courageous* - Deut 31:7-8,23; Josh 1:5-9; 2 Sam 10:12-13

iv. be strong - to empower, increase in vigor, be strengthened, be (wax) strong.

b. You are witnesses, and God also - refers back to vs 1, 4-5

i. A fathers duty is to lead by example - Deut 4:9; Pro 13:24; Eph 6:4; Col 3:21; Heb 12:9

ii. Spiritual leadership has the same responsibility - 1 Tim 3:2-7; 4:12

c. how we behaved ourselves among you who believe;

i. devoutly means holy manner

ii. and justly mean how well they dealt righteously under divine law

iii. and blamelessly pertains to their reputation before people

2. The Father as Teacher and Motivator - vs 11

a. as you know how we

i. exhorted - **parakaleo** - to call alongside

- title of the Holy Spirit - Jo 14:16-17,26; 15:26

- refers to coming alongside children for the purpose of aiding directing, and instructing wisely

ii. and comforted

- meaning to encourage in the sense of comfort and consolation

- assisting toward spiritual growth because of the many obstacles and failures

iii. and charged every one of you

- **martureo** - to be a witness, testify, charge, give (evidence), bear record, have (obtain, of) good (honest) report, be well reported of, testify, give (have) testimony, (be, bear, give, obtain) witness.
- any deviation from the divinely prescribed course of conduct would result in serious consequences

b. as a father does his own children - the natural, normal function of a father who is concerned about the well being of his children

3. The Father as Producer - vs 12

a. that you would walk worthy

- i. walk refers to daily conduct - 2Co 5:7; Gal 5:16,25; Eph 2:1-4:1,17; 5:2,8; Col 1:10; 2:6; 1 Jo 2:6
- ii. Worthy - live mature lives

b. God who calls - 1:4

c. into His own

i. kingdom - rule, or a realm (literally or figuratively):-
kingdom, + reign - Ro 6:10-11,18,22; 14:8

ii. and glory

- look forward to sharing in His glory - Pr 3:35; Jo 17:22; 1Co 15:43; Php 3:20-21; 2Th 2:14; 1Pe 5:10;
- Ro 8:30;